

Parent Advisory Committee
March 10th, 2008; 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Kandiyohi County Area Family YMCA; Willmar, MN

Present: Char Erickson, PACT 4 Wraparound Coord.
Cora Munsinger, Kandiyohi County parent
Deb Padilla, Kandiyohi County parent
Debb Sheehan, PACT 4 Director
Dwight Barrick, Meeker County parent
Gayle Dean, Kandiyohi County parent
Jaleenah Toren, Renville County parent
Jennifer Guetter, Yellow Medicine County parent
Joel Schultz, parent
Julie Slaughter, Renville County parent
Karyl Mooney, Renville County parent

Kathy Willing, Renville County parent
Laurie Bliss, Yellow Medicine County parent
Linda Hocum, Kandiyohi County parent
LoveJoy Meinz, parent
Pat Guetter, Yellow Medicine County parent
Polly Ann Peters, Woodland Centers Family Liaison
Ray Whitaker, Yellow Medicine County parent
Rosa Eddy, Kandiyohi County parent
Sherry Kenney, Renville County parent
Tamie Whitaker, Yellow Medicine County parent
Virginia Sullivan, Renville County parent

Agenda Items/Topics for discussion:

Approved minutes from February meeting: Laurie Bliss made the motion, seconded by Kathy Willing, motion carried.

Approved agenda: Laurie Bliss made the motion, seconded by Deb Padilla, motion carried.

Discussion

Debb Sheehan was present. She gave the background for the sign-in sheet used at February's meeting. Debb has emailed other collaborative directors regarding stipends and how or if parents are reimbursed. Some collaboratives do not give anything, some reimburse a small stipend. PACT 4 does reimburse the most, with stipends, mileage, daycare and meals. Discussion will continue about the role of parents (support, advocacy). Debb also stated that all reserves will be depleted by July of 2009 and this will affect everyone.

A replacement Restorative Justice coordinator has been hired: Tricia Buggs.

Annual Meeting on April 1, 2008. Char to check on rate for parents.

New stipend policy; many questions arose regarding new sign-in sheets. Char will take back to Executive Board.

Parent retreat: April 18th and 19th. Char will check with Charlotte Hand, Kandiyohi County Family Services Child Protection worker, about "Top 20 Teens" presentation. Kenny Turck confirmed for Open Mic. Debbie is checking into massage therapist. Other ideas: making stepping stones, relaxation video, yoga, making "leis" while talking, etc.

Action Taken/Recommendation

Parent Retreat – confirmed Kenny Turck (Open Mike), Charlotte Hand (Top 20 Teens; Adapted for Parents), and Wendell Veurink (Stress-Free Parenting) for topic presenters. Breakout sessions will include: Aroma Therapy, Stepping Stones, facials, and Satin Hands.

Training Needs identified

MACMH – April 26th through 28th in Duluth. There are no parent scholarships available. Polly Peters had information about a support group for parents of children with Autism. It is in Hutchinson.

Future Agenda Items/Unfinished Business/Topics for Further Discussion

Fundraising – Pizza Ranch (Tuesday and Thursday) one day per week; West Central Tribune's Civic Center Garage Sale (May 3 – Set up May 2; donations – fill a bag for \$2.00)

LAC – tabled until next meeting

Highlight three items to be shared at the Collaborative meeting/items to be brought to the attention of the Executive Board:

Continue discussion – what input would the Executive Board like from parents? Parent Advisory Committee will continue this discussion as well (what do we want to share?)

Parent Retreat

Next Meeting Date/Location/Time

April 14th at 6:00pm, at the Kandiyohi County Area Family YMCA.

MISSION: "To be the voice of all parents / caregivers in the four-county area of Kandiyohi, Meeker, Renville and Yellow-Medicine and to share that voice with PACT 4 partners"